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For President—Charles E. Hughes of New York.
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WAR WITH MEXICO SEEMS CERTAIN

War with Mexico now seems certain.

Pressure from some of the European nations, and the influence of temperate patriots in the United States and Mexico, may prevent organized and prolonged conflict, but at this writing the danger of a positive breach between the two republics is very grave indeed.

Every man who has anything like a due appreciation of what this means will view the situation with extreme regret. In a war between the two countries the United States has much to lose, little to gain. Mexico has much to gain, little to lose.

For the United States it means a long and bloody conflict, the sacrifice of thousands of her young men to slaughter on the battlefield and in guerilla warfare, in camp and hospital, millions of dollars wasted, and armed occupation of Mexico for years—how many no man can now undertake to say.

Whatever mistakes may have been made in the past, regardless of the blunders which may have been committed by this government, it is the duty of every American citizen to give his support to the army, his encouragement to the individual soldier who is moved by any motive or impulse to answer his country's call to arms. "Right or wrong, our country," must some time be the motto of every man.

It is futile now to attempt to say what might have been done by other statesmen or by other administrations. Under the lash of political controversy and partisan debate during the Presidential campaign, attempts will be made by both parties to make capital out of the Mexican situation.

It will be alleged that President Wilson, when he refused to recognize Huerta, started the train of disasters which has at last plunged the United States into a bloody and expensive conflict; that when he virtually tied the hands of Huerta and permitted shipments of arms to be made to Carranza and Villa, he actually intervened in the affairs of the Mexican republic and aroused widespread hatred for the United States which was intensified later by his dealings back and forth with Villa and Carranza, which hatred finally bore fruits wherever opportunity arose for hot-headed Mexicans to give evidence of the contempt and resentment they entertained for the people of the United States.

Huerta was not a model. He was doubtless as much of a murderer as Villa, but there has been no tranquility in Mexico in a half century except that which was preserved by the iron heel of a despot, and as between Huerta on the one hand and Villa and Carranza on the other, there was little choice. Morally they were all in the same boat—a motley collection of brigands, some in dress suits and some in khaki, but all time to send an army into Mexico and seat and support one or the other of these men. Huerta, as the generally recognized head of the de facto government, should have been permitted to work out his scheme of control without interference. The responsibility for what the United States actually did do must rest somewhere.

All this now is little better than "spilled milk," but as nations, like individuals, profit most from remembrance of past mistakes, it is not unwise for us to consider the course of events in our recent relations with Mexico and endeavor to extract therefrom sane conclusions for our guidance in the future.—Lexington Leader.

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HEARD AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

Washington, June 24.—The dictatorial bureaucracy of the present Democratic administration received two severe checks in Washington in recent weeks. The first, and it was indeed a severe jolt, was the verdict of a jury acquitting the officers of the Riggs National Bank, against whom the Treasury Department has been conducting investigations and prosecutions for several months. The manner in which the bank had been pursued by the comptroller of the currency gave color to the claim of the bank officers that they were being persecuted. The verdict of the jury against the Department has left no doubt in the minds of business men that the whole case is an illustration of the danger of entrusting large discretionary power to politicians who happen to be placed in temporary places of authority for political reasons. The Treasury Department will undoubtedly not be so ready to attack another business institution that meets its displeasure. It took a jury of twelve men only a minute to agree upon a verdict against the Department in this case.

The other instance in which the administration received a rebuke was in connection with postal legislation. The Senate Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads had agreed upon certain recommendations regarding rural delivery service and railway mail pay. Members of Congress had been flooded with protests against the policies the Department has been trying to put in practice in the rural service, and in an effort to meet the demands of the patrons of the rural delivery service, the Committee proposed certain restrictive regulations which would prevent the Department from further demoralizing the service. Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Blakesdale, who has "super-vision" of the rural delivery service, immediately sent out a number of telegrams and letters to postmasters directing them to start a propaganda against the proposed legislation. The language he suggested to them was not at all complimentary to the members of the Senate Committee. In fact, it reflected upon their fitness for seats in the Senate. Postmaster General Burleson denied having anything to do with the propaganda work, so the Committee called Blakesdale on the carpet and reprimanded him in no uncertain terms. The most serious disclosure of the whole affair is that the telegrams sent by Blakesdale were paid for by the Government. While the cost of the telegrams was probably not great, the principle is the same. If it is lawful for an administrative officer to expend a hundred dollars directing an administrative machine in a campaign against legislation pending in Congress, it is lawful for him to spend a hundred thousand dollars. With a practice such as this once established, bureaucracy would have no limits. Recognition of this had much to do with the determination of the Senate Committee to rebuke the Department in a most emphatic way.

President Wilson has taken the one step necessary to drive away from the Democratic party to the support of every colored voter. He has appointed a white man to the position of Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia. Cleveland established the custom of placing a colored man in this position. Every President since has observed this custom. During his 1912 campaign Woodrow Wilson assured representatives of the colored race that he would not discriminate against the colored people in the matter of appointments. After his election he promised to appoint a colored man to this particular office. His recent appointment of John P. Costello, Democratic Committeeman from the District of Columbia, is not only a violation of his promise but a violation of a custom so well established that his act cannot be construed otherwise than as a direct slap at the colored people. One-third of the population of the District is colored. There is one question that plenty of qualified men could be found among the members of that race. The position is purely clerical and has been satisfactorily filled by colored men for many years.

PREACHERS BUNKED IN JAIL
(Devil's Lake (N. D.) Cor. Los Angeles Times.)
Sixty ministers of the gospel are in jail here today owing to the fact that the Housing Committee of the North Dakota State Sunday School Convention and the Purity Congress, both of which will be held here this week, was unable to provide accommodations for the clergymen at hotels or private homes. Quarters are limited even in the battle, and it was found necessary to bunk the preachers two and three to a cell. The locks have been temporarily removed. Hobos are going through town "on the fly," hearing that quarters have been taken up in the jail.



THE REAL VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Bayonne (N. J.) Review—It is probable that it will be useless to go to the people on the party's record to date.

Cortland (N. Y.) Standard—The voters of the country know that the Republican party is competent to govern. The last three years have shown conclusively that the Democratic party is not competent. That is one issue on which many thousands of intelligent American citizens are going to declare themselves at the polls next November.

Logansport (Ind.) Tribune—If residents on the border towns want to be safe let them get aboard a British ammunition ship. Wilson will protect them then with all the power of his pen.

East Liverpool (O.) Review—Mr. Wilson has been an adept in coining catchy phrases which in their application have proved costly experiments.

Springfield (Ill.) State Journal—Democratic politicians announce that there will be no campaign preparations on their part until midsummer. They are waiting instructions from President Wilson, who expects his foreign policy to develop something favorable to his re-election. Democratic leaders but not so the Rio Grande.

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